

## CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

1. A method for manufacturing an inkjet recording medium comprising the steps of:
  - 5 applying a coating color containing a pigment and a binder as major components to at least one side of a base material using a transfer roll coater; subsequently drying said coating layer to form an ink absorbing layer, wherein Hercules viscosity of said coating color is 5 mPa·s to 30 mPa·s and said pigment contains a synthetic silica having an oil absorption of 90 ml/100g to 200 ml/100 g, a BET specific surface area of 45 m<sup>2</sup>/g to 200 m<sup>2</sup>/g and an average particle diameter of 1.0 µm to 3.0 µm and/or a precipitated calcium carbonate-silica composite having an oil absorption of 100 ml/100g to 250 ml/100 g, a BET specific surface area of 5 m<sup>2</sup>/g to 150 m<sup>2</sup>/g and an average particle diameter of 1.0 µm to 10 µm.
  - 10 2. The method described in Claim 1 wherein said synthetic silica is obtained by wet grinding a synthetic silica slurry obtained by neutralizing an aqueous sodium silicate solution using a mineral acid and/or an aqueous acidic metal salt solution.
  - 15 3. The method described in Claim 2 wherein said synthetic silica is obtained by neutralizing an aqueous sodium silicate solution using an aqueous aluminum sulfate solution.
  - 20 4. The method described in Claim 1 wherein said precipitated calcium carbonate-silica composite is obtained by mixing a precipitated calcium carbonate with an aqueous alkaline metal silicate solution and adjusting pH of said mixed solution to 7-9 by adding a mineral acid at a temperature below the boiling point of said mixed solution.
  - 25 5. The method described in Claim 1 or 4 wherein the ratio by weight for precipitated calcium carbonate/silica in said precipitated calcium carbonate-silica composite is 30/70 to 70/30 in terms of solid content.
  - 30 6. The method described in any one of Claims 2 to 5 further comprising the step of adding said synthetic silica obtained by wet grinding said synthetic silica slurry and/or said precipitated calcium carbonate-silica composite obtained by adjusting said pH to said coating color without proceeding through a drying step.
  7. The method described in any one of Claims 1 to 6 wherein said pigment contains said synthetic silica and/or said precipitated calcium carbonate- silica composite and a

precipitated calcium carbonate having an average particle diameter of 0.2  $\mu\text{m}$  to 1.0  $\mu\text{m}$ .

8. The method described in any one of Claims 1 to 7 wherein said transfer roll coater is a gate roll coater.
9. The method described in any one of Claims 1 to 8 wherein the coating weight of said ink

5 absorbing layer per one side is 2 g/m<sup>2</sup> to 7 g/m<sup>2</sup>.

10. The method described in any one of Claims 1 to 9 wherein said coating color contains a cationic resin.